REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 17-20 have been examined and claims 3-8, 11-16, and 21-30 have been withdrawn from consideration due to a restriction requirement.

Figs. 3A-3D have been amended to add the legend --Prior Art--in response to the Examiner's objections. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner approve the attached drawing sheet and remove the objections to the drawings.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Prior Art (APA) in view of Asano (5,409,867). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 9, and 10 have been amended for grammatical clarity reasons only and not for reasons related to patentability. As amended, claims 1, 2, 9, and 10 recite a method for manufacturing a semiconductor device having at least one thin film transistor that includes, inter alia, a laser beam that is a second harmonic component generated from a continuously-oscillating light source. Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection because the APA and Asano, either alone or in combination, fail to describe or suggest a method for manufacturing a semiconductor device having at least one thin film transistor using a laser beam that is a second harmonic component generated from a continuously-oscillating light source.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, the APA does not teach a laser beam that is a second harmonic component generated from a continuously-oscillating light source. Furthermore, Asano fails to cure the APA shortcomings.

Asano teaches that a laser beam is an optical pulse of the second harmonic of a Q-switch pulse oscillation. Asano, col. 2, lines 59-68. Thus, Asano's proposed laser beam having a second harmonic component does not appear to be generated from a continuously-oscillating light source as recited by the claims. Rather, Asano's laser beam is generated from a pulse-oscillating light source. Moreover, although Asano teaches using a continuous-wave type laser, the second harmonic component is not suggested or taught. Asano, col. 3, lines 63-68 and col. 4, lines 1-22. Furthermore, although Asano teaches that the polycrystalline semiconductor film formed by his proposed laser crystallization can be used as a raw material for an active region of

a semiconductor element, any process for forming source, drain, and channel regions in the crystallized semiconductor film and any relationship between the scanning direction of the laser beam and the carrier flow direction in the channel region are not taught or suggested. Asano, col. 4, lines 20-22.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 9, and 10, and claims 17-20 dependent therefrom.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 17-20 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 5,953,597. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the claims of the '597 patent do not recite a laser beam having a second harmonic component generated from a continuously-oscillating light source. Thus, the claims in the present application are patentably distinct over the relied-upon claims in the '597 patent.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the double patenting rejection of claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 17-20.